

# FRIT INDUSTRIES ARKANSAS

EPA ID# ARD059636456

Site ID: 0600106

## EPA REGION 6

CONGRESSIONAL

DISTRICT 01

Lawrence County

Updated: 4/01/03 (Deleted from NPL)

**No further Updates**

## Site Description

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- Location:**
- In northeast Arkansas, Lawrence County, Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.
  - 22 miles N.W. of Jonesboro.

- Population:**
- Walnut Ridge, 4,152; Lawrence County, 15,000

- Setting:**
- Nearest residence is three miles.
  - Nearest drinking water well - community has a municipal water system.
  - Nearest well (Industrial Park well) is approximately 1/4 mile.
  - Active fertilizer plant - 30 acres.
  - Raw materials and product waste are stored in piles on-site.

- Hydrology:**
- Coon Creek is a source of ground water recharge.
  - Ground water depth at 25 feet below surface.

## Wastes and Volumes

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- The principal pollutants at the Frit Superfund site included the following: Zinc sulfate, Cadmium, Chromium, and Lead.
- Runoff of approximately 81,000 gallons of contaminated water into Coon Creek during February 1979 caused a fish kill. Approximately 100 tons of contaminated soil were excavated from drainage pathways in 1982.
- Unknown quantity of contaminated ground water and surface soils may still be present.

## Site Assessment and Ranking

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### NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 39.47

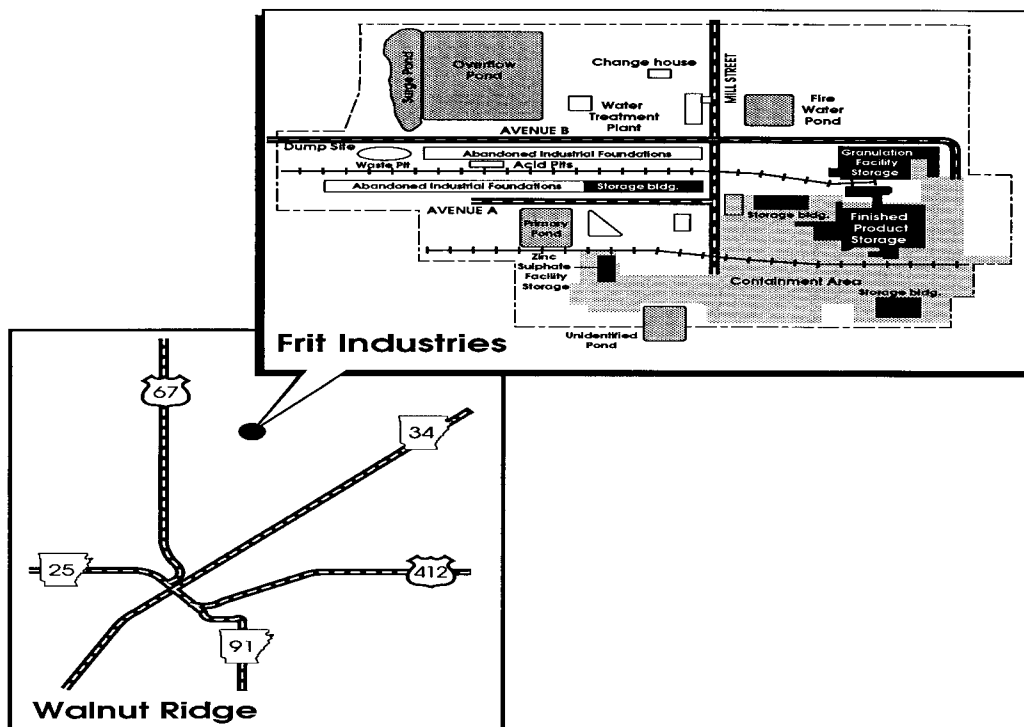
Proposed Date: 10/23/81

Final Date: 9/08/83

NPL Update: No. 1 (Original)

- The U.S. Department of Interior noted that the site discharges heavy metals and fertilizers and that the site is a potential threat to fish and wildlife resources. Comments did not affect the score.

## Site Map and Diagram



## The Remediation Process

### Site History:

- Frit Industries is an on-site operational company that produces micronutrients or trace element additives for fertilizer.
- On February 18, 1979, a fire consumed portions of a product storage facility. The resulting 81,000 gallon run-off caused a fish kill in Coon Creek.
- Approximately 100 tons of contaminated soil was excavated from run-off pathways in 1982.
- A Superfund Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) was signed on February 3, 1983. All of the requirements were implemented by Frit and approved by the EPA (the most notable being the 1984-85 construction of a surface water collection and treatment system and 1986 biological sampling of Coon Creek).
- A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) AOC was signed on June 23, 1987. As a result, a closure plan was developed for two hazardous waste storage facilities and a surge pond. A ground water evaluation and monitoring plan was also developed. These were approved by the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology (ADPC&E) in 1990. Now known as Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)
- A second RCRA AOC was signed in late 1991, requiring submittal of a Site-Wide Facility

Investigation Work Plan, to be conducted in addition to the RCRA Closure Plan.

- The site is now being addressed under the RCRA Closure Plan and State (ADEQ) Superfund authorities to investigate and address any remaining contamination.

#### **Health Considerations:**

- Risks are due to potential contamination of ground water and surface water run-off.

#### **Other Environmental Risks:**

- Operations at the site caused run-off problems, possible ground water contamination, and air pollution.

### **Record of Decision**

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Signed: Not Applicable

- An AOC was signed by the Company in November 1982, (and by EPA in February 1983) for construction of a surface water run-off treatment plant, environmental study of Coon Creek, and ground water monitoring.
- Any additional activity is to be conducted by ADPC&E under delegated RCRA authority.

#### **Other Remedies Considered**

#### **Reason Not Chosen**

[ Not Applicable ]

### **Community Involvement**

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- Community Involvement Plan:
- Open houses and workshops:
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting:
- Original ROD Fact Sheet:
- Milestone Fact Sheets: 10/90, 7/92.
- Citizens on site mailing list: 42
- Constituency Interest: The Mayor of nearby College City called the EPA in November 1989 to report air emissions from the facility.
- Site Repository: Lawrence County Library, 1315 West Main Street, Walnut Ridge, AR 72476

### **Technical Assistance Grant**

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- Availability Notice: None
- Letters of Intent Received: None
- Grant Award: None

## Contacts

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- **RCRA-EPA Manager, Arkansas/Louisiana, Section Chief (EPA):** Cathy E. Carter, 214/ 665-6705
- **State Contact:** Project Manager- Clark McWilliams, 501/682-0850
- **Community Involvement (EPA):** Cathy E. Carter , 214/ 665-6705
- **Attorney (EPA):** Paul Wendel, 214/665-2136, Mail Sta. 6SF-DL
- **Prime Contractor:** N/A
- **Engineer/ Oversight Services-** American Environmental Engineering, Leads, Alabama, 800/238-8744

## Issues and Activities

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- Frit Industries and the EPA conducted site testing to determine whether the water runoff treatment plant is effective. Meanwhile, the EPA has determined that the site does not pose a threat to human health or the environment while awaiting completion of the site evaluation.
- Investigative and remedial activities now being conducted by the State of Arkansas under RCRA authorities.
- "Construction Completion" status pending HQ review of completed Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remedial action (in early 1980s) and future RCRA action.

Notice of Deletion of site from NPL by deferral to State RCRA Program occurred on 8/97.

## Present Status:

- Site Ground Water Monitoring is being actively conducted and the Risk Management decisions/agreements between ADEQ and Frit Industries are pending the composite analytical results.
- Genisis Environmental monitored the Frit Site January 2003, and ADEQ is awaiting the analytical results of that sampling event.

## Benefits

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- CERCLA has already addressed surface water runoff which was responsible for a fish kill in nearby Coon Creek. RCRA authorities are presently addressing air, surface soils and ground water contamination under a signed State and Frit Industries AOC, potentially affecting 15,000 people in Lawrence County.